

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6891

BILL NUMBER: HB 1131

DATE PREPARED: Dec 20, 2001

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Notice of Violent Threats.

FISCAL ANALYST: Michael Molnar

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that the duty to warn of violent behavior is discharged by a mental health service provider who makes reasonable attempts to communicate the threat to the intended victims and who takes other specified action.

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The law currently requires that the provider take one of five possible actions for an individual that has expressed an intent to injure another person. Under the proposed bill, the provider must make a reasonable attempt to communicate the threat to the intended victim or victims as well as taking one or more of the listed actions.

To the extent that a person is housed in a county hospital during a period of emergency mental detention, a county may bear additional cost. The additional time required to contact the intended victim(s) of the threat is assumed to be minimal. However, the potential for a liability suit does exist if an intended victim is harmed because a county provider is neglectful in making an effort to contact them. It is assumed that an example such as this is the exception to the rule and occurs very infrequently under current law.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: County hospitals.

Information Sources: